THE DEFENDER Magazine



January 1944

Vol. 18 No. 9.

Turn To Page 12.

GERALD B. WINB & D * EDITOR

WICHITA EAGLE SATURDAY EVENING DECEMBER 11, 1943

TO MERCHANT MARINE



JOHN PAUL WINROD, 18, son of Dr and Mrs. Gerald B. Winrod, of 145 North Green, left recently for California to enter the merchant marine During the past two years he has been a theological student at Hesston college and the Florida Bible institute.

A Letter From United States Senator Capper

Dr. Gerald B. Winrod

Wichita, Kansas

Dear Dr. Winrod:

I have received a clipping from the Wichita Eagle which prints a picture of your son, John Paul Winrod, who has been a theological student at Hesston College and the Florida Bible Institute for the past two years, and has recently left for California to enter the Merchant Marines. I am sure he will serve with credit to himself and his country. When you write him, give him my kind regards and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Arthur Capper

Soldiers Witness For Christ

By Theodore W. Engstrom

Mr. Engstrom was until recently, Managing Editor of "The Christian Digest," a popular journal published at Grand Rapids, Michigan. As an editor and author of several books, he has earned for himself an admirable position in the religious circles of the Country. Today he is serving with the armed forces, stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

AS I WRITE this article, I am just finishing seventeen rough and rugged weeks of army basic training, and like all of my buddies, am wondering just what the future holds. We wonder just where we will be sent, and what our future duties will be. Many of these men who have been carefree and easygoing in these past weeks now suddenly have become serious and are in doubt as to what the future holds for them. It is wonderful in all circumstances of life to know that come what may, the Lord knows the beginning from the end and has His hand upon all who have placed their trust in Him.

I have become deeply attached to these basic-training buddies of mine. Ninetysix of us started out together as green rookies, and have drilled, hiked, worked, played—and, yes, worshiped together. It has been a wonderful joy to be able to testify to these men of the saving grace of Christ. I feel that many are thinking seriously of things eternal and it is my prayer that many will, before their army careers come to a close, realize how precious and near Christ can be to them in the service.

One of the greatest joys of a Christian service man is to contact other young men of "like precious faith." Just last Sunday it was my pleasure to meet with a group of twelve or fifteen live-wire, earnest soldiers who are real soul-winners. They meet every Sunday afternoon at a Salvation Army U.S.O. for a Gospel service.



The Raymond T. Richey Evangelistic Party invites you to turn to pages 16 and 17 of this Defender.

Nearly every week young soldiers are accepting Christ as their Saviour as a result of this splendid ministry. How thankful we should be that such young men as these are "not ashamed of the gospel of Christ" and are proclaiming His love in such a manner. What a joy it was for me to kneel beside a sin-sick, heart-sick, homesick soldier and show him the way of salvation. How happy this lad was as he told us that his sins were gone! Yes, he was made a new creature in Christ Jesus.

Soldiers are hungry for the Gospel message. Christian service men, are you telling your buddies of the Altogether Lovely One? Friends back home, are you faithful in praying? God is working, yet His channels are through you and me. Let us consecrate ourselves anew that we may prove fit, cleansed yessels, meet for the Master's use.

Singing Sailors

SAILORS returning from the theaters of war have brought back the touching story of shipmates at sea whose voices echoed through the din of battle with songs of courage, comfort . . . and songs of home. These were the hundreds of sailor choristers who had been trained at Great Lakes by Chaplain Hialmar Hanson and who had not forgotten to raise their voices once again for the inspiration men needed in battle. Impressive was the story of fifty bluejackets who sang the hymn, "The Old Rugged Cross," as bombs rained down upon the decks of the Lexington. The voices became fewer and fewer and the tune grew thinner as one by one the bluejackets dropped from the chorus forever. But the words echoed on through the night, bringing strength and fortitude to the surviving crew.

(From Pathfinder Magazine.)

As a Bible-believing Christian, you need The Defender more today, than ever before. Do not permit your subscription to expire.

THE DEFENDER MAGAZINE

JANUARY 1944

New Defender Headquarters Dedicated

ON THIS page of The Defender appears a photograph of the new commodious offices of The Defenders Movement.

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A large number of Wichita Ministers and Laymen, with their wives — representing many different Church denominations, assembled Friday evening . . . January 7th. for the dedication service.

One Pastor gave the invocation. Another Pastor offered the dedicatory prayer. Rev. May H. Clutter, of the Defender's staff, directed the congregational singing, using her autoharp as an accompaniment. Dr. Winrod gave the names of all Defender employees now serving in the armed forces, after which he read the 91st Psalm as a prayer-basis for our boys on the far-flung battlefields of the world.

He also delivered the dedicatory address, taking Matthew 7:24-29 as his text. Mrs. Winrod served refreshments to the guests at the close.

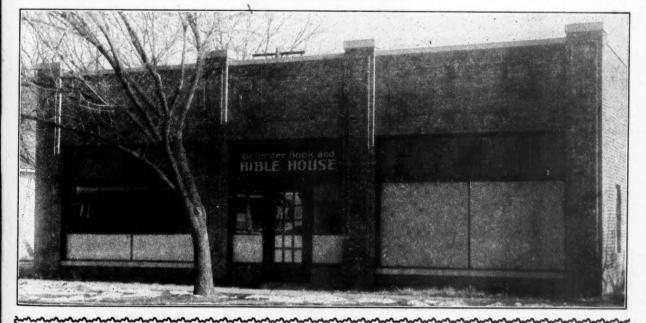
Everyone walked through the building, examining all the offices, the shipping department, the indoor garage, and facilities essential to conducting the many lines of work which emanate from this Gospel center. There were expressions of satisfaction and praise to God on every tongue for the blessings being enjoyed, despite persecution and the stringencies of the times.

During the course of his remarks, Dr. Winrod traced the Evangelistic and Missionary work of the Defenders' Testimony through twenty years of constructive service to the Cause of Christ. "This lovely building is being dedicated free

from debt—an achievement which, all things considered, is nothing short of miraculous," said Dr. Winrod. "We are at this hour commemorating the fact of answered prayer. No church edifice was ever more completely set aside for worship and service to the Lord Jesus Christ than this building which has been appropriately named THE DEFENDER BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE.

"Because of the dullness of the human intellect in the matter of appropriating spiritual knowledge, the Heavenly Father teaches His children many important truths by the use of types, parables and figures of speech. This is true of the word 'rock,' used in our text. Throughout Scripture, the symbolic term 'rock' always applies to deity and never to hu-

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Brain Building And Spiritual Growth

By Rev. Gerald B. Winrod, D. D.

The text of an address on practical Christian psychology, with minor revisions adapting it to use as a magazine article...recently delivered before the student body of the Florida Bible Institute.

THIS MORNING we are to think of ourselves as students of applied psychology. It is our purpose, in pursuing these studies to be practical rather than technical.

Method is said to be greater than goal. There are certain methods known to psychologists which may be profitably applied for awakening dormant elements, creating new capacities, increasing earning, learning and productive power in the building of a successful personality. Let us examine ourselves in relation to our environment with a view of determining how we may become better students, more useful citizens and stronger Christians.

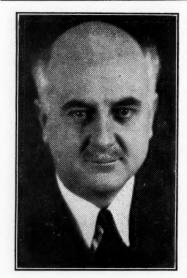
We live in a world governed by a reign of law. There is no realm of caprice. All law, natural and spiritual, originates with the Almighty God and Creator of the universe. If one violates physical, psychical or spiritual laws, he may expect to suffer the consequences. And the opposite is true. Compliance with these laws will produce assured results. The Apostle Paul was applying the scientific method to things spiritual when he said: "Prove all things."

There are natural laws in the natural world . . . and spiritual laws in the spiritual world. A wise man once said: "Science is the religion of things natural and religion is the science of things spiritual."

Psychology is that department of science that classifies knowledge regarding the principles of the mind. It endeavors to explain mental processes. It seeks to show how rational human beings may comply with psychic laws for attaining their highest good in this life.

GETTING RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

As we approach the study of psychology it becomes necessary to choose



DR. WINROD

one of two premises. Modern Behaviorism reasons erroneously that the material world is the realm of reality, that the mind of man evolved by something akin to spontaneous generation, out of the quagmires of materialism. It starts from the physical and works back toward the spiritual. Building upon a false

foundation, it fails to erect a true structure of thought. Many of its deductions are contrary to fact and thoroughly dangerous.

On the other hand, Christian psychology starts with the Genesis statement: "In the beginning God." It recognizes the spiritual world as the realm of reality. God is a spirit. Man is a spirit in whom the image of God has been marred through sin. Man does not HAVE a spirit. He IS a spirit—and has a soul and body.

Behaviorism reasons backwards. It regards the physical as the cause and the mental the effect. Its roots are fastened in materialism. God is an evolution, a mental concept. Man made God in his own image!

Christian psychology visualizes the spiritual as the cause, and the mental and physical as the effect. The spirit is the cause; the soul is the effect; the body is the effect of the effect. The roots of Christian psychology are fastened in deity. It regards the physical body as an outer garment destined to dissolution. The human spirit, in which is embodied the root qualities of personality, will exist, clothed with soul substance while the eons of eternity roll.

The earliest approaches leading up to the mystic castle of psychological research, demand a choice on the part of the pilgrim. The student stands at the crossroads. One road leads to truth and triumph. The other leads to delusion and despair.

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Do you choose to be materially-minded and identify impulses, appetites, desires and destiny with the animal kingdom and the physical world? Or do you prefer to



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be spiritually-minded and regard man as endowed with mental and spiritual capacities which make it possible for him to think the thoughts of God and rise above things mundane? "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." "To be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

THREE PLANES OF LIFE

There are three Scriptural words in the original Greek used to designate the three forms of life that exist in our world. They are "bios," "psuche" and "zoa." In these terms we discover delicate shades of meaning intimately associated with the trichotomy of man. Paul said: "I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless."

From "bios" comes our word "biology," having to do with the life of the physical body. From "psuche" is derived the word "psychic," meaning the life of the soul, the study of which constitutes psychology. From "zoa," the New Testament speaks of "spiritual" life. Our English version employs the prefix "eternal" only when "zoa" appears in the original text.

An illustration of the use of "zoa" is noted in I John 5:12, "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." The Greek word behind the English "life" in this passage is "zoa."

Psychology is concerned with the "psuche" life-level. It has to do with the power of thought. It demands that the mind be a file - not a pile. It insists that cobwebs shall not be allowed to accumulate in the brain. It deals with the stimulation of brain cells. This leads me to remark, that you grow brains like beans, except you plant a different kind of seed! Psychology is the science of the soul.

SOUL SUBSTANCE

The soul is composed of a substance invisible to the natural eye. It has form, size and ability to function. In expression, it is positive and negative, fathermother. On the positive side it contacts the human spirit. On the negative side it contacts the human body. The positive and negative elements are not separate. They are simply the outer and inner expressions of the one.

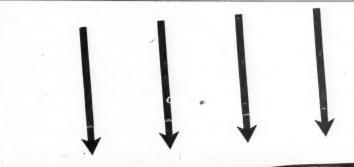
As negative, the soul is subjective and intuitive. Quickened by the Holy Spirit, this negative or mother aspect makes possible spiritual illumination and prophetical discernment. Peter enjoyed such a revelation in consciousness as indicated by the words of our Lord: "Flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee." The Apostle became the recipient of a holy inflow, a spiritual impact that could have never been received from his physical environment.

As positive, the soul is objective and rational. Relationship with the material world, accompanied by the flashing of mental pictures upon the screen of thought, register in the subconscious and

tend to modify the inner impulses of the man. In the same way, negative conditions rise to the plane of objective consciousness and modify mind and char-

The soul has eyes. Some people see farther than others on the psychic and spiritual planes. And some do not see at all! The same is true of hearing. Jesus saw deep into the souls of His adversaries. Reference is made to this fact in Matthew 9:4, "Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in

-Turn to Page 6.



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. . . From Page 5 . . .

your hearts?" To the materiallyminded Pharisees, He addressed these questions: "Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not?"

Mental suggestion is the art of projecting a picture before the mind with such force that it becomes a factor in shaping character. Every definite impression tends to modify mind and conduct. The deeper the impression, the more pronounced the effect. One may clothe a thought or ideal in concise language, repeat it with emphasis again and again, until it becomes an integral part of personality.

A revival meeting is being held in your community. You attend the services. The evangelist is preaching with unction and power. He steps into the pulpit and announces his test: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

This is a concise statement of a tragic truth, but at first makes no more impression upon your mind than other parts of the service. But as the sermon progresses, the speaker reinforces the text in different ways. He employs logic, appeals to the reason, stirs the emotions, hammers the will, refers to history and experience—all the time driving home the one thought that, "whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Finally, the impression becomes so deep that you not only accept the statement as true, but its full significance breaks upon your soul. A righteous suggestion has become a potent force in your life.

"AS A MAN THINKETH"

With these facts in mind, let us turn to Philippians 4:8, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

Think! Notice, the Apostle says: "THINK on these things," these good things. Keep a reserve supply of good thoughts in the mind—thoughts of health, harmony, success, triumph. We are creatures of thought. But alas! many do not even stop to think, that they think, that they think, that they think. Some people sit and think. Others just sit!

"As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." Every thought is a brick in the structure of personality. Good thoughts constitute good building material. Weak thoughts, sick thoughts, evil thoughts, constitute bad building material. A man who claims to know, insists that one's fingernails grow twice as fast when thinking good thoughts as they do when harboring bad thoughts.

Intelligence tests show that eight per cent of the people of the United States do the thinking for the other ninety-two per cent. Very few men are worth more than three dollars a day from the shoulders down. Your head was meant to be something more than a hat rack. Christianity has never placed a premium upon ignorance. Yet I recall hearing a man say in a mid-week prayer service: "I just thank God I ain't got no better sense than to be a Christian."

One ship drives east, and another drives west,

With the self-same winds that blow, 'Tis the set of the sails and not the gales,

Which tells us the way to go.

Like the winds of the sea are the ways of fate.

As we voyage along through life,
"Tis the set of a soul that decides its
goal,

And not the calm or the strife.

ORIGINALITY

Cultivate originality. Too many people are imitators. They cramp their souls to fit the fashions. Men bolt their opinions like they do their food. Their ideas are frequently as much prepared and predigested as breakfast food. A political slogan, a popular catchword, a shopworn proverb often becomes a substitute for mental exertion. It is one thing to acquire an education but quite another thing to know how to think. It is one thing to go through school but quite another thing to think through school.

The mental faculties can be so trained that one absorbs knowledge from everything and everybody. An egotist will not learn from a sage, but a sage will learn from a fool. Every new contact and experience becomes an instructor to the studious mind. The man who fails to develop a fact-gathering capacity is unfair to himself.

The next step is to apply the facts assimilated. For all practical purposes one may as well leave the facts in the books and the books on the shelves of the library, unless he expects to put his knowledge to work.

I once heard of a man who took delight in accumulating degrees and diplomas. The walls of his office were covered with parchment. He won five degrees and took several post-graduate courses.

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He became a walking encyclopedia, a human dictionary. But he never learned to think.

He was a slave to authority, a mirror for the reflection of other people's ideas. When asked for an expression on any subject, he would begin to quote authority. If pinned down for a personal opinion, he had none. He was a failure in life and never produced more than eight hundred dollars a year. A fraction of what he knew, practically applied by one trained in the art of putting knowledge to work, would have accomplished much more.

CONCENTRATION

Learn mental concentration. Grip the mental faculties, focus them, direct them. Mind is a limited quantity. The further you spread it, the thinner it gets! Scattered forces dissipate power. Jack of all trades is master of none. The Apostle Paul left us a good motto: "This one thing I do."

Place in the sunlight a piece of paper, the falling rays will barely warm its surface. Focalize the rays with a glass and they will set the paper on fire. Beware of mind wandering. Perhaps you have heard about the absent-minded college professor who poured syrup down his back and scratched the pancakes. He tied the spaghetti and ate his shoestrings. He slammed his wife and kissed the door.

The story is told of an inventor working intently upon an invention in an upper room. For thirty hours he has been concentrating his mind without sleep, rest or relaxation. Concentration is intensified. Forty hours, fifty hours, and he comes down the stairs looking like a hunted beast. His face is grave and marked with heavy lines. His eyes are deep set, the hair disheveled. He calls six of his best trained men to accompany him back to the room.

A friend pleads with him to pause for rest. "Stop, man, you are going into brain fever. When are you coming down?" He answers, with a voice that is barely audible: "When the invention is complete, or I will never come down." Again in the upper room, his men follow instructions and answer questions. Concentration is continued. Fifty-one, fifty-five, fifty-six hours and the brain of the inventor, Thomas A. Edison, is wrought to a white heat. But from the white heat of that brain our cities were

aglow last night with the electric torch.

Great physical skill is required on the part of the man who walks a tight rope. It is not easy for him to keep moving along a small wire, perfectly balanced against forces that would pull him too far one way or the other. As students, we face the task of holding a firm balance, concentrating our powers along one particular line of service, retaining mental and spiritual equilibrium in the face of distracting agencies without and within.

Mr. Edison accomplished this feat. On another occasion he drove himself for two years, sometimes working sixteen hours a day, and was finally rewarded by hearing the first phonograph record make the sound "sh." Noah Webster worked thirty-six years on his famous dictionary. It took Bancroft twenty-six years to compose his "History of the United States." Gibbon spent twenty years on "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire." Michael Angelo

was seven years painting the ceiling of Sistine Chapel. Titian toiled seven years on the "Last Supper." DaVinci put in four years on the head of Mona Lisa.

While writing "Notre Dame," Victor Hugo sent all of his clothing out of the house, fearing he might be tempted to put down his pen and leave the premises. The measure of a man's success is determined by his ability to disregard hindrances and hurl the full weight of his soul on the side of achievement. Only then do knocks become boosts and barriers stepping-stones.

RUTS

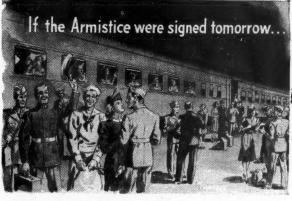
Beware of ruts, Avoid mental hazards. Keep looking ahead and moving forward. I shall repeat an old motto but a good one: "Keep on keeping on."

Arrange for more than you can do.
Then do it.

Bite off more than you can shew.

Bite off more than you can chew, Then chew it.

-Turn To Page 8.



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Hitch your wagon to a star, Keep your seat, And there you are. That's all there is to it, Now, go and do it!

Many inspiring tributes have been paid to William E. Gladstone. Among them is one by John Morley, suggesting the secret of the man's abounding vigor and freshness, which continued until he reached the ripe old age of ninety-one. Morley said: "Gladstone kept himself in line with discovery." In line with discovery!

At an age when men thirty years younger would be prone to occupy themselves with reminiscences of the past, Gladstone's mind was youthful, and engaged in mulling over the problems of tomorrow.

The novelist, O. Henry, once wrote a story in which he caused one of his characters to describe a certain town by saying: "The trouble with this place is that everybody in it dies when they get about twenty-one and they don't do anything but snore and toss around in their sleep the rest of their lives."

A preacher once confided in another minister the fact that he changed parishes every four years to avoid preparing new sermons. He said: "I have a supply of messages that carries me through four years, and then I am ready to move on to the next field." His friend asked: "What is your favorite funeral text?" and added, "You are mentally dead and I would like to give proper care to the corpse."

I once heard a farmer tell about a toad that fell in a rut—a churn half full of cream. The story goes that the unlucky toad kicked, splashed and splattered, until it churned out a piece of butter on which to perch and save itself from drowning.

Keep moving. "Keep on keeping on." Jesus warned against self-satisfaction. His parable of the full storehouse and the man who died after laying up goods for years to come, finds application here. Pity the teacher or preacher who stops learning, and starts moving in circles, with spontaneity, freshness and contagion of thought lacking. What a void must fill the soul of the person who allows himself to cross the mental "dead line."

BE A BUILDER

Be constructive. I have known a few men, during the last twenty-five years of public life, whose motives impressed me as being entirely constructive. Their outlooks were uplooks. They were too big to be narrow, selfish and bigoted. They lived for others. Dr. John A Davis, the late founder and president of the Practical Bible Training School, was such a man. His friends often heard him repeat this jingle:

A good thing to remember, And α better thing to do, Is to work with the construction gang, And not the wrecking crew.

The wise man looks for good in other people—and finds it. He takes advantage of his neighbors. In every friend and acquaintance are desirable traits of character to be discovered.

A man moves in next door to you and says: "I am going to watch you. I am going to find all your weak points and detect your meanness." You say: "Very well neighbor. I am going to watch you. I shall look for your strong points and virtues. I am determined to discover the good things and successful traits in your life."

You watch each other. Both find what you are looking for, with the result that the neighbor embodies your worst and weakens himself. You embody his best and build it into your character. You win. He loses.

Study the personal habits of great leaders who have made history. In every instance they were constructive builders. They coupled unselfish service with hard work. Their visions transcended material compensation. Mr. Edison once said: "Genius is two per cent inspiration and ninety-eight per cent perspiration."

BRAIN BUILDING

Professor Elmer Gates, a scientist of the last generation, made experiments with dogs that demonstrated how brain capacity can be increased by systematic training.

Taking seven shepherd puppies at the moment of birth, he put two in a dark room, sent three to a field and placed the remaining three under a course of intensive training. The first two were protected in such a way that light never entered their eyes. The second group saw all kinds of colors, but no color in particular; they were not made to concentrate. But the third group was handled differently.

A narrow passageway, fifty feet long and three feet wide was carpeted with copper plates. These plates were painted different colors. Everyone was connected with an induction coil so that it could be electrified at the will of the teacher. There was a path of blue plates, a path of green plates, a path of red plates and paths of various other colors. The dogs were induced to run back and forth in the hall two hours each day for almost a year. By this means they were taught to distinguish shades and tints of color. They concentrated with regard to sight.

Professor Gates could push a button and electrify any series of plates de-

Everybody Should Read This:

"From Dope Fiend's Cell To Pulpit"

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sired. When a dog stepped on a plate through which a current of electricity was passing, a shock was registered. Thereupon, it chose other colors. This plan caused the dogs to pick out and step on colors that gave them no pain. They were finally able to discriminate between a wide variety of colors and shades with a rapidity unknown to the average dog.

After eleven months, all seven were chloroformed. The sight regions of the brains of each dog was examined. The dogs whose existence had been spent in a dark room did not have a greater number of well-developed ganglionic cells than puppies one day old. Their brains were dormant as related to sight. A scientific authority says: "There were no more filaments or dendrites running out from the cells, and examination by means of the photo-microscope showed that there was no greater internal nerve structure radiating from the nucleus, than in puppies just born."

The second group of dogs, sent to the farm where they saw from day to day a general maze of color, possessed an average of eighty-nine well-developed cells per square milimeter in the sight regions of their brains. But the three dogs that were taught to think and discriminate, had twelve hundred to fourteen hundred cells per square milimeter of space.

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STUDYING THE SCRIPTURES

It is a matter of individual responsibility with each of us to channel our thinking on the higher levels. We must strive to conform with standards of truth. Because of the limitations of human nature, it is probable that we will fall below our ideals. It therefore behooves us to place the ideals high and direct our energies toward noble objectives.

Sin is an awful fact, a constant deterrent against lofty aspirations. The Christian, having been born again, is quickened in his spirit by contact with the Holy Spirit. This makes the soul sensitive to the contaminating, corroding effects of sin. Others may indulge in wicked practices and suffer no pangs of conscience. But when the Christian lapses temporarily into a wrong mental attitude or does a sinful deed, remorse gnaws at his inner nature until he prostrates himself before the Heavenly Father in wholehearted repentance. The soul of the believer is sensitized by vital relationship with the Holy Spirit. "Christ in you the hope of glory."

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The prayer of Psalmist finds echo in the soul of every true Christian: "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer."

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Letters To Bill

Dr. Gardner's Message To Boys In Uniform

neat little cloth-bound khaki-colored volume with an American eagle and open Bible emblazoned on the front cover, is bringing cheer and inspiration to many boys in uniform. Mr. W. H. Wooster of the Fleming H. Revell Company remarks that its sale has reached fifty thousand - and the book is still young.

The Author, Dr. John Gardner, is no sentimentalist. He writes in a straightfrom-the-shoulder way on things about which men must pause and think in meditative moments. He has turned out the type of book that appeals to a sober mind at the end of the day, or when some arduous task is finished.

Scholarly but not stuffy . . . inspiring but not mushy . . . religious but not sectarian . . . conversational but not shallow - this book, "LETTERS TO BILL ON FAITH AND PRAYER," is being accorded an appropriate welcome by Pastors and Church Workers throughout the Country.

There are sixteen letters in the series, broken into five divisions: (1) Being a Christian Soldier, (2) Faith, the Key to Life, (3) The Value of Prayer, (4) Our Share in the Redemption of the World, and (5) The Certainty of Eternal Life.

Dr. Gardner began writing letters to men of the armed forces of the first World War. He published a book called. "Letters to a Soldier on Religion." It was well received. Then came the era of peace. Once more he has taken up the pen. The "Letters to Bill" comprise a sequel to his earlier literary labors. Thus he is qualified by experience for the task at hand.

"William Wordsworth wrote a poem entitled 'Character of the Happy Warrior'," says Dr. Gardner. "He tells us that at first he intended to dedicate it to Lord Nelson, the hero of the battle of Trafalgar, but because of a regrettable

A Startling Message on

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Send at once for a free copy. GEORGE GIBBENS, Godfrey, Illinois incident in Nelson's private life he felt that he must choose some more obscure man as his ideal. His poem opens with

> Who is the happy warrior? Who is he That every man in arms should wish to be,'

"Those lines have haunted me as I have seen man after man enter the ranks during recent weeks. These men are now serving on land and sea and in the air. They are engineers, artillerymen, members of the motor and tank corps, infantry, sailors, and aviators. Some are doctors, or in other auxiliary branches of service. As I think of them I find myself aware of the millions like them who are now standing in the line of duty; and the urge is upon me to say something which may make their task easier to discharge. The war, and, indeed, all situ-

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ations raise perplexing problems concerning life, death, and the great beyond."

The foregoing is taken from Dr. Gardner's Introduction. With this background the letters are found to be cumulative in contents. They are like sixteen links in a chain of thought, each interlocking with the one before and the one following. Yet, in a sense, each is complete in itself, The letters become deeper and richer as the series progresses. Turning to page 47, Letter Number 7, we read:

"I have tried to show you the value of believing that God is in the world working with and for men individually and collectively.

"It is one thing, however, to entertain such confidence in times when life is running smoothly, and another thing when faced with stark reality. Am I wrong in thinking that the circumstances in which you find yourself constrain you to wonder about the value of prayer? When life is normal, spiritual things do not always seem of crucial importance. We may profess and call ourselves Christians, but we take things for granted. Every nickel in our pockets is stamped, 'In God We Trust' and we accept the words as we accept the Constitution of the United States of America. So with our prayers-they are apt to be perfunctory. Prayer is a habit which has grown with us since our childhood.

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"We go to church and engage in acts of worship, but the things asked for are not the things we personally most ardently desire. It is in the crises of life, times of stress and strain, of hardship and peril, that prayer assumes an altogether new significance.

"You may recall the dramatic story of the rescue of Captain Eddie Rickenbacker and his comrades. Their plane came down in the Pacific ocean and for weeks they floated in a rubber boat. They were without food or water. One man drank sea water and died in the arms of Captain Rickenbacker. John F. Bartek had a Bible in his jumper, and the men organized a prayer meeting. There had been no rain for ten days. They prayed for food. Rickenbacker says, 'I wouldn't tell

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this if I didn't have seven witnesses, it's so fantastic, but within an hour after our prayer meeting, a seagull landed on my head.' Two nights later they had a rain storm. Then sharks chased a school of mackerel, some of which leaped into the boat. Thus the men were sustained until

"Some time ago I spent an evening with a group of learned people — presidents and deans of colleges and professors of philosophy. Somehow, the conversation turned to the subject of prayer, and apparently not one of them believed in answers to prayer. I do not know what they would have made of Captain

Rickenbacker's story. They might have talked about coincidence, or simply raised their eyebrows. But the story is real enough. When men like you are facing peril and death, they need to be assured that if they cry to God they are calling on one who hears. That assurance helped Jesus in His dangerous undertaking. He prayed, 'Father, I know that thou hearest me always'."

Dr. Gardner has written a book that will enrich the thinking of every reader, deepen patriotic devotion to Country, and create a holy reverence for God the father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. There are those who would fail to understand the unselfishness of the prayer by minister and his all-uniformed, allmale congregation, all prepared to give their lives:

"We humbly beseech Thee graciously to behold and bless those whom we love, now absent from us. Defend them from all dangers . . ."

Another prayer, the Lord's Own; a scripture reading; a blessing; prelude and postlude by the sergeant — and the service was through.

Just a little meeting between God and men. When and where the next would be, only God knew.

(The above release was sent to The Defender from Red Cross National Headquarters in Washington, D. C.)

Religious Service In Red Cross Work

SOMEWHERE In Italy—They didn't know it then, but the 16 soldiers and three sailors who settled into chairs that bright Sunday morning thousands of miles from their own places of worship were attending the first church service to be held in an American Red Cross club on the continent of Europe.

It was simple and short: thirty minutes for the entire service; five minutes for the sermon.

Chaplain Horace N. Cooper, major, United States Army, whose home is in Denver, Colo., conducted the service and delivered the sermon. The pianist was Staff Sergt. Ronald, L. Reed, Akron, Ohio.

Memories of peaceful back-home Sundays with God and family must have visited the now-fighting men as they sang the old hymns. "Jesus calls us, o'er the tumult..." "Rock of Ages, cleft for me..." "Beneath the Cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand..."

Those songs mean more now, somehow.

Remarks from the sermon:

"It is the things we neglect to do that damn us, the sins of omission . . .

"Virtue isn't virtue until it is repeated often enough for it to become second nature . . .

"Your chance to practice the Christian religion sits beside you, he washes his messkit with you, his pup tent is next to yours, he lay feet from you in a fox-hole in last night's raid . . .

"He is the man in your outfit who seems lonely, the man nobody seems to understand, the fellow who seems to be always in trouble. He is one of the little people."

The responsively-read psalm—the 103rd—was filled with meaning to fighting men of land and sea: "Who saveth thy life from destruction;" "The Lord is full of compassion and mercy;" "The days of man are but as grass: for he flourisheth as a flower of the field."

"Can We Expect A World-Wide Revival"

By Dr. Paul W. Rood

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Martin Niemoeller-Persecuted For Christ

CHRISTIANITY is universal . . . because sin is universal. The sin problem is the greatest of all problems. Christianity alone offers an antidote to evil. Christians are not perfect people but they worship a perfect Christ.

Remorse floods their souls when they fall below the ideals staked out in the Christian code. Back in Old Testament times, David felt the same pangs of conscience and cried out: "My sin is ever before me." Many passages in the Psalms show that David was conscious of the presence of Christ in His (Christ's) pre-existent state. This made him sensitive to sin.

Christians throughout the world, regardless of geographical or racial boundaries, are partakers of Christ's nature, members of one body. "For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another."

Thus, in the truest sense, Christianity is an organism-rather than an organization. If one part of the human body suffers, the shock, the pain, is registered throughout the entire system. In like manner, when Christians in any part of the world suffer persecution, the entire body of Christ reacts.

NIEMOELLER-A SYMBOL

Dr. Basil Miller has written a book exemplifying the fact that Christians are good sufferers. He shows that, in modern times, they are capable of enduring

great pain. This emphasizes the paradox of the ages-namely that down across the centuries. Christ's Cause has always thrived on persecution. Again and again, it has stood at the grave-sides of its persecutors.

The figure around whom Dr. Miller weaves his story of Christian survival, is Dr. Martin Niemoeller, the persecuted Preacher of Germany. As the reader moves through the pages of this tragic and gripping story, Niemoeller emerges more than a tortured, tormented, harassed servant of Christ . . . and becomes a symbol of spiritual power, a tower of Christian strength, a prophet of destiny who dared to be true to his Lord in the face of terrible opposition.

Dr. Miller pictures this Preacher as a man whose steps were dogged for years by persecutors trying to get something on him. Attempts were made to frame the good man. His life was microscopically examined for minor flaws. False interpretations were placed upon his public and written utterances. His family was made to suffer. Indignities and insults, unbearable to mortal man except as Christ gives strength in response to prayer, were heaped upon him. Finally, the Gestapo struck . . . BUT NIEMOEL-LER IN PRISON IS A MORE POWER-FUL VOICE AND A FAR GREATER INFLUENCE FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS, THAN NIEMOELLER IN THE PUL-

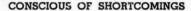
This is Dr. Miller's contention and every fair-minded reader will agree that he builds a strong case. The title of his book is "MARTIN NIEMOELLER -HERO OF FAITH"



"Martin Niemoeller" By Dr. Basil Miller

The sorrowful experience of Dr. Martin Niemoeller is symbolic of persecution now being visited upon Christ's followers throughout the world. Maligned, harassed and imprisoned by the German Gestapo, this Preacher is today a more powerful force for righteousness than would have been the case had he remained in the pulpit.

PRICE \$1.25 POSTPAID Defender Publishers, Wichita 1, Kans.



God often finds His men in peculiar places. Our Lord found Peter and Andrew casting nets. Matthew was a taxcollector. Luke was a physician. Jesus found Zacchaeus on the limb of a sycamore tree, John Bunyan in jail, Dwight L. Moody in a shoe store. But, as Dr. Miller recites, of all the strange places to find a heroic soldier of the Cross, a twentieth century martyr for Christ, was in a German U-Boat. And so, this book contains a striking chapter, entitled. "From U-Boat to Pulpit."

Martin Niemoeller is shown to be a greatly misunderstood man. His splendid personality has been subjected to many and varying interpretations. Fragmentary facts, have at times caused wellmeaning people to misunderstand him. The originality of the man's mind is reflected in his public service for the

Like all men whom God truly uses, Dr. Niemoeller has ever been conscious of personal shortcomings and inability to perfectly reflect the life of Christ as his deepest heart desires. This quality is noted in the text that he chose for the sermon delivered June 29, 1924 at the time of his ordination: "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect; but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:12).

Dr. Miller says: "The journey from submarine to pulpit had come to an end. and Martin's service for God and coun-

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try, in his new profession, was dawning.

"After Martin had been imprisoned in a Hitler concentration camp, he is reported to have said that while he was fighting as a naval officer in the World War he was motivated by a feeling that all the fighting was for something unworthy and without meaning in the timeless glow of eternity.

"This meaning he found in his call to proclaim God's Word as a servant of the Church. The deeper he delved into the Bible, the more majestic its truths became to his soul. It was upon this Word that he laid the foundation for his successful pastorate to come and which now in his prison cell sustains him with its unfailing strength."

PERSECUTED BY GESTAPO

Byron's sentiments expressed poetically seem appropriate at this point:

They never fail who die in a great cause.

The block may soak their gore;
Their heads may sodden in the sun;
Their limbs be strung to city gates
and castle walls;

But still their spirit walks abroad.

There is a familiar and specious teaching that says might makes right. Certainly this cannot be said of dictatorship where the will of the masses is bent to satisfy the demands of a few who by acts of terrorism, have attained the upper hand. Spiritual leaders in whose souls the candle of Christian truth burns, reject the ideology of brute force.

Search the pages of the past and find who have stood for advance—for the abolishment of false notions and the conservation of righteous ideals, in Society, Church and State, while angry waves of presecution and opposition broke around them. Only a few invincible spirits have stood like Martin Luther, who said: "Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise, God helping me." It was always the powerful selfish groups that "persecuted the prophets, and stoned those that were sent unto them," that clamored for the life of an Elijah and a Paul, and crucified the Saviour of the world.

Someone has said there is sufficient divine power resident in the soul of man to move the universe and establish the millennium in ten minutes, but it would take effort-and humanity hates effort. When left to themselves, men take the path of least resistance. But now and then, a great soul arises. Linked to God through the power of the Holy Spirit, they dare to stand for Christian truth. Such men are of themselves imperfect, but they serve a perfect Christ. This spiritual driving force and motivation was reflected in the historical statement of Dr. Noemoeller when he said: "God is my Fuehrer."

Every age brings forth its heroes. We chant the praises of those of long ago, while often failing to recognize those living among us today. Dr. Miller calls Niemoeller: "God's man of destiny for modern Germany's hour of tragedy. God has matched spiritual need with a man whose life has been steel-fibered."

IT TOOK THE GESTAPO FIVE YEARS—1933 TO 1938—RESORTING TO MANY SCHEMES OF ENTRAP-MENT, AND ALL KINDS OF TRICKS. TO STRIKE THE BLOW AT CHRIST'S CAUSE WHICH NIEMOELLER'S PERSECUTION PRODUCED. Because the

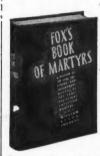
Preacher had thousands of friends among the clergy, and tens of thousands in the Laity, a loosely formed but potent organization of Christians rose in Germany known as the "Confessional Group." To them and other Christians throughout the world, Niemoeller with his powerful, independent voice for Christ, is a twentieth century martyr.

Dr. Miller says, as far as known today, the persecuted Preacher is still alive. The last authentic statement placed his whereabouts in a Bavarian concentration camp. Three of his sons are reported to have recently sent him word: "We will follow in your steps and become ministers."

Shortly before his arrest he said: "The prospects of better times are gone, the earthly pillars of our hope are falling away. But the Lord Jesus Christ still lives, and He is present."

And to this statement millions of Bible-believing American Christians will echo a fervent "Amen."

Because Christians are being persecuted here in the United States by pro-Communist elements, even arrested on utterly preposterous charges, believers will do well to inform and fortify themselves by reading Dr. Miller's book.



A Great English Classic

During these days when Niemoellers are languishing in concentration camps... and Christians in many parts of the world are being harassed, tormented, persecuted, driven into exile and even put to death, it is well for believers to review the past.

Enemies of Christ have been slow to learn that they dig their own graves when they persecute Christians. This great book was first published in 1563. Written with passion and tenderness, the history of persecution and triumphant deaths of Christian martyrs will cause believers of the twentieth century to take new hope and courage. Printed in large type . . . frontispiece of Gerome's famous painting, "Early Christian Martyrs in the Coliseum at Rome" . . . rich, dark red cloth binding.

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Dr. Winrod Talks In College Assembly

"Philosophy of Prayer" Is Subject of Evangelist

Dr. and Mrs. Gerald B. Winrod were guests at Hesston college assembly on Thursday morning. Dr. Winrod addressed the student body on the subject "The Philosophy of Prayer." Dr. Milo Kauffman, president of the college introduced Dr. Winrod.

Dr. Winrod presented prayer as the only agency known to human beings for the release of creative spiritual power. He defended the supernatural claims of historical and evangelical Christianity and described New Testament religion as "a system of supernaturalism." He said the day of miracles is not past.

"One encouraging trend in the present period of suffering is the fact that ever increasing numbers of people are coming to rely upon God and prayer," said the speaker in a conversation at the close of the message. "Many who never prayed before, are today praying for their sons, for the preservation of the American way of life, for home and country.

"Strange and mystifying results from these supplications are being observed. This fact is exemplified in the experience of Captain Eddie Rickenbacker and his seven comrades reading a New Testament, praying daily for deliverance, as they floated twenty-one days in rubber rafts on southern waters. Finally, facing death from starvation, a sea gull appeared suddenly out of the blue sky, landed on the captain's head and provide food to relieve their gnawing pangs of hunger. Elijah's experience of being fed by ravens was no more miraculous than that of Eddie Rickenbacker and his companions.

"Only last week, press dispatches told of a bomb falling and lodging on the wing of a flying fortress during a raid on Emden, Germany. The ship flew four hundred miles before landing to unload this unwelcome and treacherous cargo. It was only a miracle that the bomb did not explode. After reaching his base safely, the pilot, Lieutenant E. A. Martin of Greensboro, North Carolina, said, 'Someone must have been praying for us.'

"The hand of God was vindicated at Plymouth Rock, Valley Forge, Gettysburg and other times and places in American history. There are indications that the same all-wise providence is working in our behalf today. Herein is hope.

"Supernatural power released through prayer, does not oppose natural law. It simply transcends nature and manifests higher form of energy than would otherwise operate. Prayer is not sentiment. It is science—spiritual science, based upon exact knowledge and demonstrable truth.

"Every normal human being prays. That person who has never developed a rich life of prayer violates psychic and spiritual laws meant for his highest good and permanent well being."

'From "The Hesston (Kansas) Record"
... December, 30, 1943.)

Twenty-Five Prophecies Fulfilled In 24 Hours

"But All this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Matthew 26:56. In one day of twenty-four hours, the Lord Jesus Christ fulfilled twenty-five specific Old Testament prophecies.

- (1) He was to be sold for thirty pieces of silver. Prophecy: Zechariah 11:12. Fulfilment: Matthew 26:14, 15.
- (2) He was to be betrayed by a friend.

 Prophecy: Psalms 55:12-14; 41:9. Fulfil-

ment: Matthew 26:47-50; John 13:18.

- (3) The money obtained was to be cast to the potter: (a) silver, (b) 30 pieces, (c) thrown down, (d) in the House of the Lord, (e) used to purchase field. Prophecy: Zechariah 11:12-13. Fulfilment: Matthew 27:3-10.
- (4) His disciples would forsake Him. Prophecy: Zechariah 13:7. Fulfilment: Matthew 26:56: Mark 14:27.
 - (5) He was to be accused by false wit-

nesses. Prophecy: Psalm 35:11; 109:2. Fulfilment: Matthew 26:59, 60.

- (6) He was to be smitten and spat upon: (a) smitten, (b) on the face, (c) spat upon, (d) upon the face. Prophecy: Isaiah 50:4-6. Fulfilment: Luke 22:64; Matthew 26:67, 68.
- (7) He was to be silent before His accusers. Prophecy: Isaiah 53:7. Fulfilment: Matthew 27:12-14: 1 Peter 2:23.
- (8) He was to be wounded and bruised. Prophecy: Isaiah 53:5. Fulfilment: Matthew 27:26, 29.
- (9) He was to fall under the Cross-Prophecy: Psalm 109:24. Fulfilment: John 19:17: Luke 23:26.
- (10) His hands and feet were to be pierced. Prophecy: Psalm 22:16. Fulfilment: Luke 23:33; John 20: 25-27.
- (11) He was to be crucified with thieves. Prophecy: Isaiah 53:12. Fulfilment: Mark 15:27, 28.
 - (12) He was to pray for His persecu-



By Rev. George L. Rose

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- (13) The people were to shake their heads, Prophecy: Psalm 109:25; 22:7, Fulfilment: Matthew 27:39.
- (14) The people were to ridicule Him. Prophecy: Psalm 22:8. Fulfilment: Matthew 27:41, 43.
- (15) The people were to be astonished. Prophecy: Psalm 22:17; Isaiah 52:14. Fulfilment: Luke 23:35.
- (16) His garments were to be parted and lots cast for them. Prophecy: Psalm 22:18. Fulfilment: John 19:23, 24.
- (17) He was to cry: "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" Prophecy: Psalm 22:1. Fulfilment: Matthew 27:46.
- (18) The persecutors were to give Him gall and vinegar. Prophecy: Psalm 69:21. Fulfilment: Matthew 27:34; John 19:28, 29.
- (19) He was to commit Himself to God. Prophecy: Psalm 31:5. Fulfilment: Luke
- (20) His friends were to stand afar off. Prophecy: Psalm 38:11. Fulfilment: Luke 23:49.
- (21) His bones were not to be broken. Prophecy: Psalm 34:20; Exodus 12:46. Yet they were to be "out of joint" (crucifixion pangs). "I may tell all my bones." Psalm 22:14, 17. Fulfilment: John 19:31-36.
- (22) His side was to be pierced. Prophecy: Zechariah 12:10. Fulfilment: John 19:34-37.
- (23) His heart was to be broken. Prophecy: Psalm 22:14. Fulfilment: John
- (24) Darkness was to cover the land. Prophecy: Amos 8:9. Fulfilment: Matthew 27:45.
 - (25) He was to be buried in a rich

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An Editorial

By Gerald L. K. Smith

FEW nights ago I attended a meet- ${f A}$ ing which was held in a YWCA building. A Preacher opened the meeting with prayer, but at no time did he use the name of Christ, and he closed the prayer without using the common phrase "in Christ's name."

All sorts of organizations are springing up in America which claim to be broad enough to include all types of faith and religion. Meetings of these organizations are attended by Jewish Rabbis, Catholic Priests and Protestant

Preachers. I observe that the Catholic Priest never compromises his faith. The Rabbi never seems to cover the fact that he is a Rabbi and that he is holding to the Jewish faith. But frequently in these meetings I notice that there is a type of bouncy and twitchy Protestant Preacher who is always apologizing or assuming an attitude of apology for his faith, and in order to please the Jews he frequently offers a prayer without using the name of Christ. Such compromise breeds the contempt of everybody.

Any real person will respect a man who has the courage of his convictions. It is time for these wishy-washy, cowardly Preachers to either start preaching the true gospel or get out of the pulpits. If a man wants to preach atheism and skepticism, he ought to go down on Main Street and rent a hall above a saloon and invite the community to come and hear his atheistic discussions, and then he should expect to live off of the money donated by the atheists. But he shouldn't be permitted to sneak into a pulpit in a church built by the faith and prayers of honest believers, to say and do things that break down the faith of men and women in the Lordship of Christ and in the inspiration of the Holy

(Reprinted from "The Cross and Flag" of which Mr. Smith is the Editor.)

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THIS PHOTOGRAPH offers a glimpse of the Desert Training Camps in California and Arizona. The Richey Evangelistic Party has already held two revivals in this area—using the Red, White and Blue Canvas Cathedral. Night after night men in uniform knelt, accepting Christ as Saviour, rising from their knees to give testimony to His saving Grace. Not a few had their wives with them. Many of these women expressed themselves as comforted in knowing that Christ will accompany their husbands overseas. This fact serves to give both the men, and their loved ones at home, a true basis for prayer.

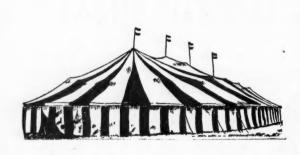
Evangelist Raymond T. Richey says: "Pray with us daily for those in the armed forces. Pray

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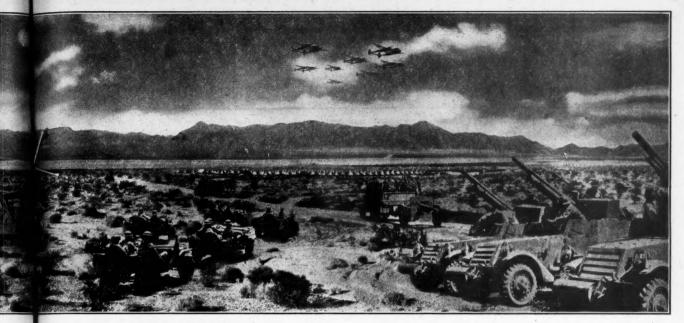


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Country — many of whom, far from home, brought heavy hearts with them into the services. Can a finer thing be done than to carry the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to the men of the armed forces before they leave for overseas service?

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for you to have a part in this program of Evangelism. No doubt, some who read these words can fellowship in the Ministry by sending offerings of larger amounts — \$50.00 or \$100.00. But contributions of \$1.00 or \$2.00 or \$5.00 are likewise needed and will be appreciated. "How shall they hear without a preacher?" Romans 10:14.

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Saul -- First King Of Israel

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FTER Joshua's death, 1427 B. C., A Israel was ruled by Judges for approximately 332 years, and at the time of the Prophet Samuel, 1095 B. C., unbelief was rife. Sin and iniquity had so progressed there was no longer proper obedience to God's word. Israel's excuse for rejecting Him was the corruption of the Judges, especially the perfidy of Samuel's two sons whom he had made Judges (1st Sam. 8). The people wanted a King to rule them and fight their battles simply because they had little faith in God.

While Israel obeyed the commandments and statutes of God, prosperity, happiness and victory resulted. God was covenant-bound to do this. The indictment of Samuel's two sons was just, but that was not the real cause of the rejection of God, but unbelief in the Kingdom. God would have taken care of that situation had there been faith and trust in the people themselves. Even after they were warned what the change would entail, they stubbornly rejected the divine plan (1st Sam. 12:12).

Informing the people of America that totalitarianism will bring loss of liberty. blood, tears and death will no more stop them from voting to bring it about than the foretold truth and warning stopped Israel from wanting a King. Ungodly people do not have the Spirit of Christ, and are therefore unable to judge rightly what is for their best welfare. God granted Israel's evil desire and told Samuel to choose and anoint Saul, the son of Kish, a Benjamite.

Saul was selected because of his spiritual qualifications. The Scriptures testify (1st Sam. 9:2) that he was a

choice young man, and among the children of Israel there was none better. God is not a respecter of persons (Acts 10:34) and knows the man for the job and where to find him. Accordingly, as recorded in 1st Sam. 10:1, Saul was anointed to be captain over God's inheritance. God in his foreknowledge knew he would fail in being an overcomer, yet he was the most spiritual man for the position, judged on the basis of faith. Had there been a better man, God would have selected him. The fact that the house of Saul's father was the least of the Benjamites was immaterial (1st Sam. 9:21). There was none like Saul among all the people (1st Sam. 10:24).

NATIONAL DECADENCE

The selection of Saul as King proved he was fully acquainted with the commandments, statutes, and promises of God, and had lived a life of faith pleasing to Him (Heb. 11:6). There was promise of complete success in his great calling, even divine healing. No reason, except disobedience, existed for him to have periods of insanity, described as "an evil spirit coming upon Saul." In Exodus 15:26, it is written that "If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee."

The security of Israel depended not upon a large army, but upon national character through simple obedience to God's word and trust in Him The colossal misery, destruction and death in

the present war is not the direct result of certain beastly men who lead and govern nations, but the indisputable result of the peoples of nations rejecting God and putting their trust in man. Organized religion, by its failure to preach the Gospel of Christ in the power of the Spirit, is responsible for the world's present condition. Instead it has built up vast systems of dead works and false teachings, centered around a mere intellectual knowledge of Christ. The people of a nation are responsible for what happens to their country.

Sin and iniquity incapacitate a man and render him powerless to judge rightly the things to his best interests and welfare, as well as to society. He is at the mercy of the fowler, and has no divine protection above the natural laws that govern his life. In order for God to intervene in his behalf and circumvent natural laws by higher spiritual ones and extend protection through divine justice and righteousness, there must be faith as a basis on which to work. A man who does not know Jesus as his Saviour, is his own worst enemy, and likewise an enemy of God. He is a menace to himself and society. Knowing the word of God in truth is to experience personally what it says, certainly not an intellectual

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acceptance thereof, which is merely empty religion.

LOSS OF SPIRITUAL VALUES

Saul started out as King with success. God's Spirit came upon him in great power and he rejoiced greatly. Why? Because he obeyed God! The stronger one grows by walking in the light of revealed truth, the more pronounced become the assaults of the satanic powers to defeat him in his Christian life. These assaults, together with the inherent sinful nature of flesh, the lusts thereof, and the power of the world in the life of the Christian, curtail and stunt the spiritual development. Saul failed in overcoming the world, and soon after taking office as King, flagrantly disobeyed the word of the Lord. Grievous disobedience results not from any one act, but is built upon many little ones. Disobedient children are known by their dead formality and lack of spiritual power, especially noticeable when they pray. Christians of this type are stumbling blocks to others and high barriers to saving sinful men. God wants a life fully surrendered and obedient to His will, which brings divine protection and blessings in all things and under every condition of human experience.

Saul's disobedience robbed him of perfect health. He did not enjoy this cherished possession of life to the extent possible under the promise of Exodus 15:26. The doctrine of divine healing is to be able by one's own faith, or through the faith of other spiritual persons to have God intervene and set aside the law of sin and death temporarily, and overshadow it by a stronger spiritual law and heal the sick one. .

The more important thing however is for a believer to reach that place of steadfast faith and love in Christ wherein he is automatically kept in health, as with the man in Psalm one. Saul's malady of insanity, or as the Scriptures state, "an evil spirit," was due to the law of sin and death. Because of his defection, God could not help him. Had Saul been faithful and obedient in everything God revealed to him, this malady and tragedy which resulted so disastrous-



ly to Israel would not have occurred, for God would have had righteous grounds on which to help Saul in time of need. There would have been victory and blessing, instead of pain, destruction and death.

When disaster comes, stupid men see their selfishness, sins and mistakes. So it was with the people of Israel, for in 1st Samuel 12:19 the people admitted that they had added to their sins by asking for a King. But it was too late to correct the wrong.

NATIONS SUFFER WHEN REJECTING GOD

Saul's first outstanding disobedience was taking Samuel's place in offering up a sacrifice. Lacking proper faith and trust, he became frightened by the large army of the Philistines and the scattering of his people, and offered up a burnt offering in supplicating the Lord for help. Victory did not depend on offering a sacrifice, but upon peace and love with faith in God. Israel was not walking in the Spirit. There was too much sin and ungodliness amongst them. They had forfeited the promises of protection and blessings given in the commandments, and laws governing them.

Saul had one of the greatest oppor-

tunities for glory recorded in the Scriptures. He failed to hold fast that which he had that no man take his crown (Rev. 3:11). As a consequence of his dismal failure came the condemning verdict: "Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the Lord thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the Lord have established thy kingdom upon Israel forever. But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the Lord hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the Lord hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the Lord commanded thee" (1st Sam. 13:13-14). It is seen, therefore, that he lost the great prize. Who can measure the extent of this eternal loss? The rejection occurred not long after taking office, in the third year of his reign (1st Sam. 13) but did not terminate his earthly reign which lasted for almost forty years. He, therefore, continued to reign over Israel, and God blessed him with victory over all his enemies on every side (1st Sam. 14:47).

Saul's second great sin was in wilfully disobeying the instructions regarding the smiting of the Amalekites (1st Sam. 15). He reserved the best of the sheep and

- Turn To Page 20.



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oxen of the enemy to sacrifice unto the Lord. Herein is found the principle of dead works on which religious systems are founded—the thought that something must be done to earn salvation. Good works result from obedience to God's word, and are not the outcome of the will of man, certainly not the use of money, goods, or chattel from ungodly people for use in the service of the Lord.

Saul's first wilful disobedience proved a great loss to himself, but this second one proved disastrous both to his nation and himself. From that time on his life was indeed miserable. As a result of Saul's defection, there is voiced the principle involved in attaining to a successful Christian experience: "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of lambs" (1st Sam. 15:22).

DISOBEDIENCE ALWAYS UN-PROFITABLE

God does not utterly forsake His children under any conditions. Like all children born of the Spirit of God, Saul was bought with a price, he was not his own (1st Cor. 6:19-20). Being a child of faith, he was saved by grace, through faith, not works (Eph. 2:8-9), and was sealed by the Spirit of God unto the day of redemption — the day of resurrection (Eph. 4:30). But by his disobedience he forfeited God's power in his life as he neared the final years of his reign, though he worshipped the Lord and had personal blessings down to his death on the field of battle.

Notice was served in I Samuel 13:13 that the Lord had desired to establish

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Saul's kingdom upon Israel forever. Now it could not continue, yet fourteen years transpired before (1079 B. C.) his final rejection was made (I Sam. 15). During those fourteen years, had he showed proper repentance and feared the Lord, obeyed His voice, and not rebelled against divine commandments, he would have been able to intercede in his own behalf and end his reign successfully and pleasing to God. Hezekiah (2nd Kings 20) could lay before God his obedient walk, and God in great love and mercy, added fifteen years to his life.

Disobeying God's word is always foolish and unprofitable. We shall all stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ, and every one must give account of himself to God; that he may receive the things done in his body, according to what he has done, whether it be good or bad (Rom. 14:10; II Cor. 5:10), for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap (Gal. 6:7).

Saul reigned approximately 23 years after his final rejection. He had a very troubled and unpleasant life, without the power of God during that time. He finally came to his saddest days, that period when God no longer answered him (1st Sam. 28:6). The Philistines were again gathered together against the army of Israel, and when Saul saw the enemy host, he became afraid and his heart trembled. How different the picture would have been, had be been obedient! He would have had God's counsel and power and victory assured him. He was God's anointed, and no one could harm him without God's permis-

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sion. Yet after his unusually rich experience, we find him turning for help to a woman with a "familiar spirit"—a witch.

This was a terrible state into which to backslide. The sin brought quick judgment on Saul, premature death, and not only to him, but his three sons and most of the army. The more one attains to the excellency of the knowledge of Christ, the greater is that one's responsibility to mankind.

What a sad sight to see Saul before the witch of Endor (chapter 28). He sorely missed Samuel after his death, so he desired the demon-possessed woman to bring him up before him, that he might ask what to do in his predicament with the Philistines. No one but God has the power to bring back the dead, and He brought up Samuel (from Paradise, see Luke 16:19-31) to pronounce judgment upon Saul for his disobedience and distrust (1st Chron. 10:13-14) and upon Israel for their unbelief.

Saul was told by Samuel (1st Sam. 28:19) that the Lord would "deliver Israel with him into the hand of the Philistines: and tomorrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: the Lord also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines." How amazingly exact is God's word.

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others in the Scriptures to prove that God saves from the uttermost to the uttermost. Accordingly, that Saul's salvation may be definitely recorded, it is written that on the morrow he and his sons shall be with Samuel. It is manifestly certain and indisputable that Samuel, who was dead, was in Abraham's bosom, and Saul and his three sons could not under any conceivable stretch of the imagination go to any other place and be with Samuel. This shows the marvelous grace and infinite love of God.

What a pity there are those who after God gives them faith to believe and be saved through the finished work of Jesus on the Cross of Calvary should later doubt that He is the Author and Finisher of their faith (Heb. 12:2), and that retaining their salvation depends upon themselves, rather than the power of God (1st Pet. 1:5). The final judgment passed upon Saul and Israel is recorded in 1st Samuel 31, wherein it states that the men of Israel fell down slain in mount Gilboa, including Saul's three sons.

When Saul saw he would be captured.

he pleaded with his armor-bearer to slav him. When the servant refused, he fell upon his own sword, in an attempt to kill himself. Saul proved to be a reproach and disgrace to the Lord, yet mercy was extended to him even in his dying moments, for 2nd Samuel 1, explains that an Amalekite found him with his life vet whole in him and slew him. and brought his crown and bracelet to David. The attempt at suicide was circumvented by God as a last act of mercy to His disobedient child, for it is made clear in 1st Chronicles 10:13-14 that "Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the Lord, even against the word of the Lord, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to inquire of it; and inquired not of the Lord: therefore He slew him, and turned the kingdom unto David, the son of Jesse."

God caused the Amalekite to bring his earthly crown to David. What a price Saul paid for his disobedience, yet great homage is given him by the Spirit of God through David in 2nd Samuel 1. generalissimo was trapped near Kaifeng by his enemies, surrounded, with practically all ways of escape cut off. His headquarters were on a railroad siding. In his predicament he went to a Christian Church nearby and prayed earnest-

-Turn To Page 22.

An Appeal To Christians

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"ONE night in 1928 I received an urgent telegram from Madame Chiang asking me to come to Nanking immediately. I arrived there early the next morning. The madame wanted me to talk salvation to the generalissimo, but he was busy with State affairs. However, at about four o'clock Madame Chiang suggested that we should go for a motor ride.

"While riding around Nanking Madame Chiang strongly urged her husband to accept the Christian faith by formal baptism, clinging to her argument by saying 'Pastor Kuang, our good friend, is going to America soon and will not be back for some months.' The generalissimo refused to be pressed into the Christian Church. He said, 'I have just

finished reading the New Testament through for the second time, and now I am just beginning to read the Old Testament. I want to learn more about this Christian religion before I join the Christian Church.' There were some arguments for a moment, then I finally took the side of the generalissimo, saying, "The generalissimo is right: he should know more of the truth. I shall be gone only a few months, and if he is ready upon my return, I shall be happy to baptize him then.' So I took my train back to Shanghai, and thence sailed for America.

"In the meantime, while I was in America, a civil war broke out in China between a war lord and the Central Government represented by Chiang. The

Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek

By Dr. Basil Miller

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ly for God's help, promising that he would accept Christ as his Lord if he were delivered. The Lord did answer his prayer, sending a heavy snowstorm which held up the enemy's advance. Within the next two days his own reinforcements arrived by rail. Thus God not only saved his life but actually turned his apparent defeat into victory. Then it was that he made up his mind to accept Christ as his Lord.

"Upon my return from the United States I was asked to baptize this leader of China into the membership of the Christian Church.

"In my opinion his mother-in-law, Madame Soong, has more than anyone else influenced the development of his Christian life because it is her advice that he has consistently followed, of beginning each day with Bible reading and prayer. His faithful observance of this morning devotion has been the primary cause of his growth in Christian knowledge and faith, which has changed him from a self-seeking Chinese politician into a Chinese world statesman. Upon his leadership at this critical hour hangs the destiny of one-fourth of the human race of the world."

In December, 1936, when he was kidnaped by his political enemies near Sian he asked from his captors only one thing, a copy of the Bible. To the Methodist Conference which was held the following year he sent the stirring message witnessing to the power of Jesus Christ in his life, telling how much the Lord had meant to him during those thirteen days of captivity. The following is part of that message:

"I have been a Christian for nearly ten years," said Chiang, "and during that time I have been a constant reader of the Bible. Never before had this sacred Book been so interesting to me as during my two-week captivity in Sian. This unfortunate affair took place all of a sudden and I found myself placed under detention without having a single earthly belonging. From my captors I asked but one thing-a copy of the Bible. In my solitude I had ample opportunity for reading and meditation. The greatness and the love of Christ burst upon me with new inspiration, increasing my strength to struggle against evil, to overcome temptation and to uphold righteousness."

(Condensed from an account by Pastor Z. T. Kuang, the Preacher who baptized Chiang Kai-Shek.)

What Is A Christian?

Rev. P. G. Parker . . . Durban, South Africa

To THIS question the heathen world has no answer. The civilized world has a wrong answer. Christendom has a confused answer. The heathen world cannot give a reply because it knows nothing about the Saviour. The civilized world, generally speaking, thinks that a Christian is one who does good deeds. Christendom—that is the mixed population which generally would describe itself as Christian—confuses faith and works.

1. First of all, the Bible reveals that a spiritual experience does not necessarily make a Christian.

It is possible to have an amazing experience and yet not be saved. It is possible to be convicted of sin by the Hory Spirit, yea, to be

STRICKEN WITH CONVICTION,

and yet go on one's way unsaved. It is possible to hear Christ knocking and refuse to open. It is possible to hear Him speaking and refuse to listen.

John Wesley had spiritual experiences years before he was saved. His story is generally well known, yet it bears repetition. For years before Wesley really became a Christian he was being spiritually exercised. He was exercised about his own eternal state. He was especially exercised about the savages in

Georgia, North America, and was for two years a missionary to them, yet he was not himself a saved man at that time. In his "Journal" for 17th February, 1738, he wrote: "It is now two years and almost four months since I left my native country, in order to teach the Georgian Indians

THE NATURE OF CIVILIZATION:

but what have I learned myself in the meantime? Why (what I least of all expected), that I, who went to America to convert others, was never myself converted to God."

So if Wesley and others could have spiritual experiences before they were saved, so can we. Conviction is not conversion. A consciousness of the nearness of God is not conversion. Conversion is something far more. Let us see what it is.

2. A Christian is one who has been "born again."

A Christian is not one who has been "reformed again." Neither is a Christian one who has turned over a new leaf. A Christian is one who has been "born again"—one who has received a new life. Those words to Nicodemus will stand out as the only satisfactory explanation of the Christian life. "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Now let us go back to Wesley. Wesley had had spiritual experiences but he was not saved—neither was he satisfied. There is not time or need to refer to his complete experience, but one of the greatest facts in his salvation was this: On one morning of May, 1738, when his heart was greatly exercised, he let his Testament fall open at the words: "There are given us exceeding great and precious promises, that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature" (II Peter 1:4). Those words tremendously impressed him: "Partakers of

THE DIVINE NATURE."

Ah, that was what he wanted and needed. He needed a new nature. He needed

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to be born again. A little later on he saw that this new birth was obtained by simple faith in Christ. He trusted Christ to give him a new life, and the Saviour did it.

But is that all? Does a full Christian experience end with the new birth? In one way it does. In another way it does not—decidedly does not. The New Testament makes it very clear that a Christian should not only "know it" but "show it." He should show it is in his life, but there is something more than that. He should show it by an action—a ceremonial action, if you like.

Read in the New Testament and you will find that God expects those who are saved and "know it" to "show it" by being baptized in water. On the day of Pentecost the 3,000 who were saved were commanded to be baptized by water. The Samaritans, the Ethiopian eunuch, the Ephesians, and Paul himself were all baptized in water. In other words, that which we have received inwardly we are to confess outwardly. We are to

CONFESS TO THE WORLD

and the Church that we have been "born again" by being baptized in water.

C. H. Spurgeon, the Prince of Preachers, was baptized in the River Lark. Young Spurgeon first of all received a new life. He was converted by hearing the words, "Look and Live." Yes, he looked to Christ and lived. But after he was converted he saw there was something more for him to do. He said, "According to my reading of Holy Scripture, the believer in Christ should be buried with Him in baptism." Then he describes his experience. "The wind blew down the river (the River Lark) with a cutting blast, as my turn came to wade into the flood; but after I had walked a few steps, and noted the people on the ferryboat, and in boats, and on either shore, I felt as if heaven and earth and hell might all gaze upon me; for I was not ashamed, there and then, to own myself a follower of the Saviour. Timidity was gone: I have scarcely met with it since. I lost a thousand fears in that River Lark, and found that in keeping His Commandments there is great reward. It was a thrice happy day for me." Later, Spurgeon wrote: "If any ask-Why was I thus baptized? I answer, Because I believed it to be

AN ORDINANCE OF CHRIST.

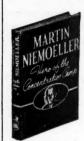
very specially joined by Him with faith

in His name. 'He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.' I had no superstitious fear that baptism would save me, for I was saved. I did not seek to have sin washed away by water, for I

believed that my sins were forgiven me through faith in Christ Jesus. Yet I regarded baptism as the token to the believer of cleansing, the emblem of his

-Turn To Page 24.

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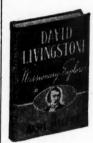
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burial with his Lord, and the outward avowal of his new birth. I did not trust it; but because I trusted in Jesus as my Saviour I felt bound to obey Him as my Lord, and follow the example which He set us in Jordan, in His own bap-

Finally, let us each ask the question,

"AM I A CHRISTIAN?"

If we can say "Yes" to that, then joyfully we can sing:

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine, Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine, Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His Blood.

But if not saved, let us solemnly remember the words:

Almost persuaded; harvest is past! Almost persuaded; doom comes at last. "Almost" cannot avail: "almost" is but to fail;

Sad, sad, that bitter wail -"Almost-but lost."

Caring For Men In Uniform

Physical and Spiritual Food for American Soldiers.

66THOUSANDS upon thousands of soldiers in our armed forces do not have Testaments and have never been given the opportunity to obtain copies."

This dramatic statement was made last week by Dr. Sam Swain, director of the National Spiritual Defense Crusade, an organization which, since Pearl Harbor, has been striving toward the goal of a Victory Pocket Testament for every man and woman in the service.

"This unfulfilled need is not because the American people fail to appreciate the need of spiritual guidance for the soldiers and sailors," Dr. Swain continues. "It is due rather to the fact that many seem to think everyone in service already has a Testament.

"Wide publicity has been given in magazines, newspapers, and over the radio to the use of Testaments in times of stress and emergency. The Rickenbacker example is a good case in point. Seven men in tiny rubber rafts, floating for weeks at the mercy of the Pacific. facing death, found divine comfort in reading from the blessed Word. Fortunately, one of them had a Testament.

"The Chaplains do a magnificent job, but these brave men cannot be everywhere. Rickenbacker had no Chaplain in mid-Pacific. The crew of a Flying Fortress has no Chaplain when twenty or thirty Jap Zeros roar down from the clouds. A soldier trapped in a foxhole needs Christ close to him and the Word of God in his pocket-and in his heart."

TONS OF TESTAMENTS

"I know the Heavenly Father would never overlook a man just because he failed to have a Testament in his hour of peril." Dr. Swain says, "but by the same token I would dislike to think of any American boy being deprived the comfort that the Word of God alone can give in a great emergency."

Convinced that his appointed mission in this war was to help care for the physical and spiritual needs of as many servicemen as possible, Dr. Swain founded the National Spiritual Defense Crusade with headquarters in Akron, Ohio. An inspiring emblem for the Crusade was devised, consisting of a golden Cross inside a V for Victory. The whole is superimposed on a sphere representing the world, bearing out the symbolism that only through Christ can human beings realize Victory over selfishness and greed. The single word "Faith" appears over the Cross. The whole device is surrounded with the motto: "Spiritual Defense-Home and Country."

Printed in red, white, blue and gold,

this beautiful emblem appears on all Crusade literature and is embossed on the khaki-colored cover of the Victory pocket Testament.

Second only in importance to the Testament itself is the unique method created by Dr. Swain for its distribution. Realizing that the Word would be cherished even more if it were a gift from some loved one of the boy himself, he has made an effort to place as many Testaments as possible into the hands of wives, sweethearts, mothers, and friends of the boys. On the flyleaf of each Book is a page for the name of the giver, as well as space to show the name and rank of the recipient. A space is also provided for a personal prayer, asking that God shall keep that soldier safe and permit him to return to the loved ones from whom the gift is sent.

SERVICE AT NASHVILLE

"From the very beginning, this Testament Campaign has been a success," Dr. Swain reports. "Only during the last few weeks have we noticed that the demand was not increasing to the extent which we thought likely. Whether this is due to the feeling, as before mentioned, that many people think all soldiers have Testaments, or due to a national letdown resulting from the fact of victory being in sight, I do not know. Whatever the case, the tendency is alarming.

"Our boys do not have Testaments to the extent they should-and the war is by no means over. According to predictions by Washington officials, more brave boys will die, many will be wounded, others will suffer privations and peril which can be alleviated by the spiritual comfort of the Lord Jesus Christ. We have no right as a nation to permit ourselves any kind of a letdown at this time

"Seven Came Through Captain Eddie Rickenbacker's Complete Story

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-and a spiritual letdown would be the most tragic of all."

"MORE, MORE, AND STILL MORE TESTAMENTS ARE NEEDED," Dr. Swain concludes: "If you do not know of any boys in the service who are without this comfort, we know of thousands and with your help, can deliver the Books directly to them. For every contribution made to the National Spiritual Defense Crusade, the organization is able to provide still more Testaments to boys.'

In addition to the Testament program, the Crusade is operating a Canteen and Service Center in the heart of one of the nation's greatest military areas. Housed in the giant Dixie Tabernacle in Nashville, Tennessee, the "Victory Service Center" endeavors to dispense real, Southern hospitality to men from the huge maneuver areas and five camps adjacent to the city.

Under direction of Mrs. Swain, the Canteen served dinners to men from thirty-four States and the Island of Bermuda on Christmas day . . . and had an opportunity of ministering to the spiritual needs of the boys as well.

"We never try to intrude religion on the boys," Mrs. Swain explains, "but rather endeavor to create a fine Christian atmosphere so that it will be natural for them to reach out toward Christ and the Salvation message."

Housing and feeding problems in this great southern metropolis are almost unimaginable. Army officials know that it contributes to the morale of troops to permit them to come into town for twenty-four or forty-eight hour leaves, but the community is simply not able to take care of this tremendous influx of service-men. Stories of soldiers going hungry and being unable to find any place at all for a few hours sleep are only too numerous.

A LETTER FROM MRS. SWAIN

Mrs. Swain wrote Dr. Swain as follows Christmas night:

"We have just served several soldiers a good Christmas supper. It made me happy to see them eat and enjoy a Christmas evening here in Victory Service Center. Nashville was unable to even begin to take care of the soldier boys this holiday season. The city is full and running over this week-end and, for that matter, every week-end.

"Those last boys who were in, said it

was impossible to even find a place to get a sandwich. After serving them I explained there was no charge. They were almost too surprised to speak. It is sad but true that most places are too ready to take advantage of a soldier.

"Pray, and ask the people to pray that God will send us more men and women to help with the work. There is a great need for several persons to come each week, to let the boys know they are welcome. Often fellows just seem hungry to talk with someone-just to visit and tell about their homes ond loved ones left behind. We have had many wonderful experiences in distributing Victory pocket Testaments. We scatter the Books all about the place, as well as many good tracts and other kinds of Christian literature.

"A soldier asked me tonight what Church sponsored the Center, and my heart rejoiced to tell him of the Christlike interest of our friends all over the United States, who make the program possible. We are putting on a big bulletin board the names and addresses of persons who send in anything for the Center. The boys get real joy out of little things like that. They look down the lists to see if they can find familiar names from their home towns or neigh-

Mrs. Swain goes on to tell about the fine Christmas dinner the boys received at the Center. Roast chicken, old fashioned dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, lima beans, salad, cranberry sauce, pickles, celery, head lettuce, fruit cake, ginger bread, jello . . . and plenty of nuts, candy, and cookies that people had

"I can't help but cry tonight," Mrs. Swain continues in her letter, "when I think how much more comfortable we could make the boys with just a little money or with a few other things that are so much needed. It seems awful to me that God's work is forgotten by so many people-and 'His' people at that! We need many more cots, blankets, towels, sheets and pillows. I hate to know of the boys doing without pillows, but they are pathetically grateful for the little we are able to do.

"You know, a boy said tonight: 'This is a luxury when you have to sleep on the ground most of the time.' Imagine sleeping on the ground, two blankets over and two blankets under, in this awful weather. But, of course, it is to toughen them for actual combat and the circumstances they will have to face later. Considering what they are sacrificing for us, we must impress upon Christians far and near the importance of coming to their support now."

The Canteen could also use some substantial and comfortable furniture, floor lamps, another piano, and other things.

"Any gift, no matter how large or small will be gratefully appreciated by the boys," Dr. Swain says. Financial contributions for either the Testament work, or Nashville Service Center, should be sent to Post Office Box 910 . . . Akron, Ohio. Furniture, bedding, food and such things may be shipped directly to Victory Service Center, 410 Fatherland Street, Nashville, Tennessee.

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"With a consuming desire for another great revival, the following chapters are offered; and if a spark is kindled that will enlarge itself by spreading its fire, no more can be asked."

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The First presents the need for revival
... in the individual Christian and the
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deal with early Biblical revivals.

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Mr. Fischer closes the book with the plea: "Let us bend our knees, raise our heads, reach toward heaven with our hands, and let our hearts earnestly send forth an appeal in the name of Jesus Christ for the Great Revival!"

THE GIST OF THE LESSON. By R. A. Torrey. Fleming H. Revell Company. Pages 160. Price 35 cents.

THIS is a vest pocket Commentary of the Sunday School lessons prepared for busy men and women who do not find time for extensive study, yet need simplified helps for weekly studies.

Although Dr. Torrey has gone to be with the Lord, his works live after him. He left such extended expository notes that the compilation of the lessons for this volume was comparatively simple. The text for every week is printed, with suggestions as to time and place. The comments are developed according to a simple outline, designed to direct the thought rather than to follow out an exegesis.

While both students and teachers will find help in this little volume, it is also useful to any who desire to improve spare moments in their individual study of the Word of God.

HIGLEY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON COMMENTARY. The Higley Press. Pages 320. Price \$1.00.

THE 1944 Higley Commentary maintains the same high standard of previous years, providing excellent helps for the Sunday School teacher and student at a minimum price. The book contains 22 features, which go to make it of more than usual value to the Teacher and Preacher.

Each lesson is outlined homiletically, and can be used for sermon or Bible talk, while the complete key and cross-index gives direct reference to all necessary material. Object lesons and illustrations help impress the mind of children and adults. A text by text analysis, central truth, and many other helpful features are found, together with questions and suggestions for class discussion. Printed in readable type on non-glare paper, the volume is bound in washable cover, and has an attractive jacket.

THE CONSTITUTION. By Everett Pitt Wilson. Published by the Author. Pages 62. Price 50 cents.

DR. WILSON, for 32 years the Head of the Department of Social Sciences and Professor of History in a Nebraska State Teachers College, also served as a member of the Nebraska Constitutional Convention and the Nebraska Legislature. For many years he has seen the need for teaching the fundamental meaning of our American government, from the lowest grades and on through the highest.

The project developed by Professor Wilson and explained in this book consists of a program of practical training. The children set up and operate in miniature the very plan and practice of the government in which as men and women they become actors. The practice of such a program in school will have a wholesome effect on future society.

He says: "We have tried to teach the mechanics of the Constitution without much regard for the fundamental principles. But this is a barren process, the interest of children is not aroused, and the principles cannot be really taught through formal means alone.

"We must change our procedure so that, by the time boys and girls have finished the eighth grade, they may have considerable understanding of the fundamentals of American Constitutionalism. By the time they have finished

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high school this understanding should be considerably enlarged."

In this volume, which is primarily a handbook for public school teachers, well planned and tested methods are presented. These are adapted to the grades from the first to the sixth, and are so interesting that children will enjoy them while learning good citizenship by practical means. Each teacher may work out the project in his own particular way, the aim being to develop the children into happy, loyal and useful citizens."

FACTS OF FAITH. By Dr. R. Fisher, Published by the Author. Pages 48. Price 25 cents.

DR. IRA WARNER, Bishop of the United Brethren Church, says in the Introduction to this booklet: "The great things of this world have been done by those who believed something. No man ever did anything worthwhile who did not have deep convictions. The greatest heresy of our day is the idea that it does not make any difference what you believe if only you do what is right. Our beliefs determine our character and destiny and equip us for service."

In this book, small enough to be tucked in a vest pocket or handbag, Dr. Fisher sets forth, in an interesting style, the great theological doctines of the Bible. He treats of God, Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Bible, Conversion, Salvation, Sin and its consequences, Satan, the Future Life, the Sabbath, the Ordinances and Sanctification.

These subjects are treated Scripturally, and the book is adapted especially to the needs of young people and new converts, although it can be studied to advantage by those older in the Christian life. It is also adaptable for study classes as well as the individual.

THE LIFE GUIDANCE SERIES. Five books by Dr. John C. Almack and Evelyn M. Almack. Pacific Press Publishing Company.

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-Turn To Page 28.

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INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON COMMENTS

January 16, 1944 Jesus Answers His Critics Mark 2:15—3:35

GOLDEN TEXT: "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake." Matthew 5:11.

There are two kinds of critics,—constructive and destructive. No one can consistently pose as a critic who is weaker in attainment than the one he criticizes. Yet human nature is such that most criticism springs from jealousy rather than sincere appraisal of others.

The critics of Jesus were jealous men. They were unable to meet Him on any plane of achievement. In futile rage they sneered at His work and teaching. They hovered on the outskirts of the crowds, watching for means to entrap Him. He was not of their group. He had never, even for one day attended a school for rabbis. He was a young upstart from a country village. Yet he posed as a great teacher, and pretended to know more than they! Therefore they sought to discredit Him, and failing decided to destroy Him.

- 1. They Criticized Him for Eating. Every action of our Lord's adversaries was circumscribed by the "traditions of the fathers." These traditions went far beyond the confines of the Law and made life a burden for the people. Matthew was a tax collector when Jesus called Him to be a disciple. He invited the Master to his house for a meal. "Publicans and sinners" were also present. Sarcastically, the Pharisees inquired why He ate with such people. Posing as a teacher and associating with such riff-raff . . . how could He expect to have influence! Jesus heard the comment and before the disciples could answer, made the penetrating reply: "They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick ... I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."
- 2. They Criticized Him for Not Fasting. To this Jesus replied there would

come a time for fasting and sorrow. Only one solemn fast day was provided in the Law, but the traditions of the fathers had added many more. (Read the parables of the garment and wine bottles in verses 21 and 22.) Jesus knew that the inauguration of His program meant cleavage from the system to which the critics were slaves. A mongrel mixture of the ascetic ritualism of the old, with the spiritual freedom of the new, would only tend to disfigure both.

- 3. They Criticized Him for Not Following Their Traditions. The critical eyes of the enemies were focused upon His every move. There was really nothing unlawful about picking a few heads of wheat and eating the grains, even on the Sabbath, but the traditions decreed otherwise. Jesus replied: "The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath."
- 4. They Criticized Him for Healing on the Sabbath. On another Sabbath day Jesus attended a synagogue service. Again His enemies eyed His every move, for there was a man whose hand had withered away. They knew that the heart of the Master would throb with compassion for this sufferer. He knew the leaders were awaiting a chance to criticize Him. He inquired what should be done-Should one do good on the Sabbath day or not! The traditions specified 39 classes of forbidden work, each with many subdivisions. Even carrying a handkerchief was forbidden unless tied around the leg and called a garter. Otherwise it was called a burden and classified as

These hypocrites had been worsted in argument so many times, they did not dare answer His question. Righteous indignation filled Jesus' heart. He said, "Stretch forth thine hand." Cooperation on the part of the supplicant was required. Someone has aptly suggested that while praying for daily bread, we should not sit and expect biscuits to rain into our hands. The man, probably with great effort, stretched his hand out to Jesus. Instantly he felt a wave of quickening power surge, sending the blood racing to the finger-tips. The tissues

took on life and the muscles resumed their normal functions.

This wonderful miracle seemed only to harden'the hearts of the Pharisees still more. Instead of rejoicing at the demonstration of God's power, they went to the Herodians and plotted the destruction of the Saviour. No longer could they ignore Him. No longer could they depend on the heckling committee. He must be put out of the way completely. Under Rome, the Jews had no right of decision for capital punishment. That was a civil right retained by the Roman government, hence the reason for counselling with the Herodians. Hatred in the heart destroys reason in the mind. A hater loses all sense of logic, all sense of fair play.

January 23, 1944
Jesus Teaches in Parables

Mark 4:1-34

GOLDEN TEXT: "If any man have ears to hear, let him hear." Mark 4:23.

Parables, figures of speech, using commonplace truths to emphasize spiritual meanings, were frequently employed by our Lord. During the second year of His ministry large crowds flocked to hear Him teach, for, as they said: "He speaks as one having authority, and not as the scribes and the Pharisees," and "Never man spake like this man."

By the Sea of Galilee one day, a multitude pressed so close that He retired to a boat and used it as a rostrum from which to speak. The people assembled along the water's edge. The thirteenth chapter of Matthew contains the series of parabolic discourses delivered on that occasion.

The Parable of the Sower is the key to the six which follow. The seed typifies the Word, by which the Kingdom of Heaven is brought into existence. It begins with the statement, "Behold a sower went forth to sow," while the others open with, "The Kingdom of heaven is like unto." The general lesson held forth in this parable is . . . However faithful the

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. . . From Page 29 . . .

preacher, and no matter the purity of the message, the effect of the preaching depends in the last analysis upon the state of the hearer's heart.

- 1. The Sower and the Seed. Four kinds of soil and six classes of persons are mentioned. The first three classes receive the Word but bear no fruit. The last three receive the Word and bear fruit according to opportunities provided.
- (a) The Wayside soil is the hard path through the field. It is unbroken and smooth and affords no place for the seed to germinate. Seed falling there would be easily seen by hungry birds. The hard-surfaced road may be likened to the path which Satan travels through the hearts of wicked men. The seed of the Word makes no impression and is soon snatched away. Many Church members have never received the Word of God. They are nominally Christians, but Satan still travels the thoroughfares of their hearts. The great truth is . . . unbroken hearts are not fit soil for saving truth.
- (b) The Stony Ground of the parable refers to a thin layer of dirt covering the stone. This resembles those who start in the Christian life with great enthusiasm but lack depth of purpose. The Word cannot send its roots deep enough to obtain needed nourishment. The grain withers when the hot sun of affliction and persecution touches it.
- (c) There is also soil from which the Thorns and Briars have not been removed. Some seed lodges among weeds, and the little seedlings are choked. Thistles ris-

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ing above the new sprouts exclude light and air, and at the same time draw away moisture and richness from the soil. No heart can produce a harvest for God if filled with the things of the world. "The cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lust of other things entering choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful."

(d) Luke says the Good, Ground is an honest and good heart. Matthew says it is the understanding heart. These traits cause the hearer to give honest consideration to the Word, helping it to become productive. Every sincere believer will say: "Thy word have I hid in my heart."

January 30, 1944 Jesus Uses His Power to Help Mark 4:35-5:43

GOLDEN TEXT: "Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?" Mark 4:40.

When evening came and the crowds departed for their homes, Jesus asked His disciples to set sail toward the further shore of the Sea. It was a convoy, for we read that other little ships accompanied His vessel. As darkness came like a mantle upon the water, the Lord, tired from a day of strenuous toil, lay down in the stern and fell asleep, His head resting on a pillow.

The Sea of Galilee lies 600 feet below the surface of the Mediterranean, only a short distance to the west. The hot air from the valley often causes the cold winds of the mountains at the north to sweep down with great fury and suddenness. On such occasions the ravines and hills at the head of the lake seem to act as funnels. This is what happened the night Jesus lay in heavy sleep of exhaustion.

1. The Storm. Without warning the storm came, tossing the waves mountain high. There was no time to lower the sails, and the first fierce gust nearly swamped the ship. Water rushed over the side and the boat threatened to capsize, yet Jesus slept on. Terrified, the disciples felt that any second they might be flung into the raging waters. They awakened, with shouts: "Master, carest thou not that we perish." They still did not realize that here was the One who had made the waters and the winds... without whom was not anything made that hath been made.

There was no evidence of fear or haste in His movements. He merely arose and spoke three words—"Peace be still!"

- 2. The Calm. No sooner was the command given than the wind ceased, the waves fell and flattened out. Instantly there was quiet . . . a great calm. Here was a mighty miracle, for normally after a storm ceases the waves roll for hours. Jesus not only rebuked the sea, He rebuked the disciples for their lack of faith. They transferred their terror from the storm to Him, saying: "What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?" Later they were to learn that He was capable of calming any storm of fear that might engulf the human soul.
- 3. Power Over Demons and Death. Reaching the opposite side of the Sea, Jesus encountered the demoniac of Gadara. Another miracle was performed. Our triumphant Christ. delivered the man whom no one could hold or tame. The demons were allowed to enter the swine which were at once drowned. The Gadarenes refused to accept the blessing of His presence because they lost their hogs, so He returned to the western shore.

A ruler of a synagogus, named Jairus asked the Lord to restore his young daughter who was the point of death. While on the way to the man's home, He was delayed by the multitude, including the healing of a timid woman who "touched the hem of His garment." As He spoke to her a messenger arrived, saying the little girl was dead, and there was no need to trouble the Master.

Jesus spoke of death as a sleep, but the unbelieving household and neighbors laughed scornfully. For this reason they were not allowed to see the miracle. Unbelief lost them a great privilege. Neither can the natural man discern spiritual things, for to him they are foolishness. Only Peter, James, John and the father and mother were permitted to enter the death chamber to witness a demonstration of resurrection power. With a loving gesture, He took the little hand and spoke gently, "Maid, arise." No slow return of strength . . . no waiitng for the fever to subside as the crisis passed. "Straightway the damsel arose and walked." The miracle was instantaneous and complete. He is the Lord of Death as of Life!

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February 6, 1944

Jesus Feeds the Multitudes

Mark 6:30-52; 8:1-10

GOLDEN TEXT: "I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger, and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." John 6:35.

1. Feeding the Five Thousand. This is the only miracle recorded by all four of the Gospels. It was the event which climaxed the Year of Popularity in the ministry of Jesus. Being the turning point of His earthly career, it resulted in a demand on the part of the people that He be crowned king to lead a revolution against Rome. He hastily withdrew by boat and spent the whole night in prayer on the mountain side. His followers had failed to grasp the spiritual content of His message.

The next day in Capernaum He gave the memorable discourse demonstrating that His aims were different from the desires of the people. His kingdom was to be a thing of the spirit which eventually would encompass the whole world until "the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever."

In this lesson however, the object is to present again the power of Jesus over the elements which He created, together with His love for hungry and suffering humanity. "I have compassion on the multitude" is the keynote of the story and the antithesis of His disciples' attitude . . . "Send them away that they may buy themselves bread."

As usual, Jesus put the matter up to the disciples—"Give ye them to eat." And also as usual, their faith was not strong enough. Only a few dollars could be scraped together, aside from a little boy's lunch consisting of five biscuits and two little fishes. Yet in the hands of the Lord of creation, sufficient to feed more than 5,000, and twelve large baskets of fragments left over!

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Author of peace and not confusion. The people were arranged in orderly ranks that they should be served with ease and speed. Then when all were seated, Jesus, taking the little lunch in His hands, turned His face toward heaven and thanked the Father. Breaking the bread and fishes, He passed the precious substance to the disciples, who in turn served the multitude. So quietly was this done that many hardly realized the stupendousness of the miracle they were witnessing.

2. Feeding the Four Thousand. The eighth chapter of Mark records another miracle similar to the first, yet with sufficient differences to prove he is not repeating the story given in the sixth chapter. The multitude had been in the wilderness three days. There were even loaves and a few small fishes. Four thousand persons were present and seven baskets full of food left over. The attitude of the disciples however, was the same, and so, too, was the compassion of Jesus.

There is a difference between physical and spiritual hunger. The former comes again within a few hours after eating, but the latter is fully satisfied when Jesus feeds the soul.

February 13, 1944
The Mountain and the Valley

Mark 9:2-29

GOLDEN TEXT: "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief." Mark 9:24.

When "many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him," Jesus turned to the twelve with the question "Will ye also go away?" And Peter answered, "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God."

1. The Mountain Top. After feeding of the four thousand, Jesus healed a blind man at Bethsaida, then withdrew into Caesarea Philippi, where in conversation with the disciples He asked: "But who say ye that I am?" Various answers were given, but Peter made the great confession of Christ's deity.

Six days later the little company was on the slopes of snow-capped Mount Hermon. Leaving the others, Jesus took Peter, James and John, and climbed to but by prayer and fasting."

the higher reaches of the mountain. Suddenly the three were astonished at the change coming over the beloved Master. The glory of deity began to shine through the enshrouding physical body, until they could scarcely gaze upon the brightness of His being. They became conscious that there were two others with them. We are not told how they recognized the visitors as Moses and Elijah, but Peter impulsively burst in on the conversation with the suggestion that they make three tabernacles . . . one for Jesus, one for Moses and one for At that moment the three speakers were hidden from the view of the disciples by a cloud, out of which came a voice saying, "This is my beloved Son: hear Him."

It also served to demonstrate the end of the age of Law and the beginning of the age of Grace. Moses, representing the Law, and Elijah the Prophets are placed in the background by the statement of God, "This is my beloved Son: HEAR HIM." A few weeks later the veil of the Temple was rent in twain, signifying the completion of the Law. The word of Jesus henceforth became the Law. Above the discordant voices of ecclesiastical leaders comes the clear note of the trumpet . . . Hear HIM!

2. The Valley Below. From the heights of shining glory Jesus led them back to the valley, where darkness and sin abounded. Here three types of need demanded the attention of Jesus. A multitude surrounded the disciples who had remained in the valley. They attempted to heal an afflicted boy but failed. The first difficulty was the terrible malady in which the mind and body of the child writhed with agony. The second was the father whose suffering was even more acute than that of the son. third was the unsuccessful disciples, bowed in shame because of their failure. These men, separated from Jesus, beset with taunting questions from His enemies, were unable to rise above their indignation to accomplish the miracle.

The father, having acknowledged his unbelief, begged for mercy, and had the joy of seeing the son healed. The son, injured and torn by the foul spirit, arose clean in body and mind. The disciples sought to know why they failed, and were told that it was because of their lack of faith. They had separated themselves from the source of power. "This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting."

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